

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for producing a particulate alumina, comprising heat-treating ~~(calcining)~~ at a temperature of 1000 to 1600°C a composition comprising alumina, an alumina hydrate, ammonium chloride and a halogen compound other than ammonium chloride and then disintegrating the heat-treated product, and wherein the composition is previously granulated before heat-treating the composition.
2. (original): The production method of a particulate alumina as claimed in claim 1, wherein the halogen compound other than ammonium chloride is a fluorine compound or a boron-fluorine compound.
3. (original): The production method of a particulate alumina as claimed in claim 2, wherein the fluorine compound is at least one member selected from the group consisting of AlF_3 , NaF , CaF_2 , MgF_2 and Na_3AlF_6 .
4. (currently amended): A method for producing a particulate alumina, comprising heat-treating ~~(calcining)~~ at a temperature of 1000 to 1600°C a composition comprising alumina, an alumina hydrate, ammonium chloride and a boron compound and then disintegrating the heat-treated product, and wherein the composition is previously granulated before heat-treating the composition.

5. (currently amended): A method for producing a particulate alumina, comprising heat-treating ~~(calcining)~~ at a temperature of 1000 to 1600°C a composition comprising alumina, an alumina hydrate, ammonium chloride, a halogen compound other than ammonium chloride, and a boron compound then disintegrating the heat-treated product, and wherein the composition is previously granulated before heat-treating the composition.

6. (currently amended): The production method of a particulate alumina as claimed in claim 4, wherein the boron compound is at least one member selected from the group consisting of B_2O_3 , H_3BO_3 , $mNa_2O \cdot nB_2O_3$, (m and n each represents an integer of 1 or more, ~~hereinafter the same~~), and a boron-fluorine compound.

7. (previously presented): The production method of a particulate alumina as claimed in claim 1, wherein the particulate alumina has a rounded shape having no cutting edge.

8. (canceled).

9. (previously presented): The production method of a particulate alumina as claimed in claim 1, wherein the alumina hydrate is at least one member selected from the group consisting of an aluminum hydroxide, an alumina gel and a partially hydrated aluminum compound.

10. (previously presented): The production method of a particulate alumina as claimed in claim 1, wherein the average particle size of the particulate alumina is 10 μm or less.

11. (original): The production method of a particulate alumina as claimed in claim 10, wherein the average particle size of the particulate alumina is from 0.3 to 8 μm .
12. (previously presented): A resin composition comprising a particulate alumina produced by the production method as claimed in claim 1, and a polymer compound.
13. (original): The resin composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the polymer compound is at least one member selected from an aliphatic resin, an unsaturated polyester resin, an acrylic resin, a methacrylic resin, a vinyl ester resin, an epoxy resin and a silicone resin.
14. (previously presented): The resin composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the content of the particulate alumina is 70 mass% of more.
15. (previously presented): The resin composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the particulate alumina is coated with a surface-treating agent.
16. (original): The resin composition as claimed in claim 15, wherein the surface-treating agent is a silane coupling agent.
17. (original): The resin composition as claimed in claim 15, wherein the surface-treating agent is a compound having any one or more group selected from the group consisting of an amino group, a carboxyl group and an epoxy group.
18. (original): The resin composition as claimed in claim 15, wherein the surface-treating agent is a modified silicone oil.

19. (previously presented): The resin composition as claimed in claim 15, wherein the coverage of the surface-treating agent is from 0.05 to 5 mass% based on the particulate alumina.
20. (previously presented): A ceramic composition comprising a particulate alumina produced by the production method as claimed in claim 1.
21. (previously presented): An electronic component or semiconductor device comprising the resin composition as claimed in claim 12.
22. (previously presented): A CPU or PDP comprising the resin composition as claimed in claim 12.
23. (previously presented): A peripheral equipment for batteries, or a peltier element, an inverter or a power transistor, comprising the resin composition as claimed in claim 12.